

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-30

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TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

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USCINCEUR

JCS

CINCPAC

S E C R E T STATE 236006

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR/IR, IO

SUBJECT: INDIAN OCEAN TASK GROUP

REF: A. TEHRAN 8321

B. STATE 232662

C. STATE 231141

1. AGREE WE SHOULD BE AS FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE WITH GOI
RE PRESENCE OF CARRIER TASK GROUP IN INDIAN OCEAN AND
ARABIAN SEA. REF A PERTAINS. TO THIS END, YOU MAY INFORM
APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF GOI ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

A. AS INDICATED REF B, HANCOCK TASK GROUP SCHEDULED TO
BE RELIEVED BY TASK GROUP COMPOSED OF USS ORISKANY AND
FOUR ESCORTS. THIS SCHEDULED TO OCCUR ON/ABOUT DECEMBER
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8. DURATION OF TASK GROUP OPERATIONS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN,
ARABIAN SEA, AND ADJACENT WATERS IS INDEFINITE AND CURRENTLY
UNDER STUDY. REGARDING FACTORS WHICH COULD AFFECT
DURATION OF THIS, OR FOLLOW-ON CARRIER TASK GROUP PRESENCE,

SUGGEST YOU DRAW ON SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY WHICH IS REPORTED BY SEPTEL.

B. HANCOCK TG OPERATIONS ARE OUTLINED REF B. ORISKANY TASK GROUP OPERATIONS CURRENTLY PLANNED TO TAKE PLACE IN THE ARABIAN SEA.

C. THERE ARE NO CHANGES IN THE ORIGINAL SCHEDULES FOR USE OF BANDAR ABBAS AIRFIELD. NO C-141/C-130 FLIGHTS HAVE BEEN REQUIRED TO DATE, BUT THIS CONTINGENCY WILL REMAIN FOR DURATION OF TG DEPLOYMENT IN ARABIAN SEA.

D. AT THIS TIME, EXCEPT FOR ITEM E AND PARA 2 BELOW, WE ARE UNABLE TO FORESEE ANY OTHER REQUESTS WE ARE LIKELY TO BE MAKING OF GOI FOR SUPPORT OF TASK GROUP OPERATIONS. GIVEN PLANNED ROTATION OF TASK GROUP UNITS, NO NEED CURRENTLY EXISTS FOR PORT VISITS BY OTHER THAN OILERS, BUT, IF THESE SHOULD APPEAR DESIRABLE TO EITHER GOI OR USG, DISCUSSIONS MAY BE REQUESTED.

E. AS EMBASSY AWARE, USAF HAS DEPLOYED 19 MAN COMMUNICATIONS UNIT AND EQUIPMENT TO BANDAR ABBAS. THIS UNIT HAS BEEN, INTER ALIA, PERFORMING VALUABLE SERVICE IN SUPPORT OF TASK GROUP AND P-3 OPERATIONS. DOD NOW WISHES TO EXTEND THIS DEPLOYMENT IN ORDER TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE TIMELY AND RELIABLE COMMUNICATIONS FOR INDIAN OCEAN TASK GROUP AND P-3S. SINCE UNIT SCHEDULED TO DEPART BANDAR ABBAS 4 DECEMBER, WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY CONTACTING GOI SOONEST TO OBTAIN GOI CONCURRENCE FOR THIS UNIT TO REMAIN IN BANDAR ABBAS FOR DURATION OF TG OPERATION.

2. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT APPROXIMATELY 438,000 BBL POL HAVE ALREADY BEEN LIFTED FROM IRAN FOR SUPPORT OF INDIAN OCEAN TASK GROUP AND THAT REMAINING 62,000 BBL APPROVED BY GOI WILL BE LISTED BY USN FLEET OILER ON OR ABOUT 10 DECEMBER. FOR PLANNING PURPOSES, WE WILL CONTINUE TO REQUIRE 500,000 BBL FOR 30-DAY TASK GROUP OPERATIONAL
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PERIODS. DETAILS ON SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS AND TIMING WILL BE PROVIDED SEPTEL AS THEY ARE MORE PRECISELY DEFINED.

3. IN VIEW OF FOREGOING, EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO OBTAIN GOI AGREEMENT FOR CONTINUATION OF TASK GROUP SUPPORT AS INDICATED IN REF C. WITHOUT TYING IT TO BROADER ISSUE WE SUGGESTED IN PARA 4, REF A. RUSH

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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